

**General Assembly**

Distr.: General
20 September 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session

Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

**Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments
to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies**

**Letter dated 5 September 2007 from the Permanent
Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General**

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement delivered by Hoshyar Zebari, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Iraq, at the tripartite Iraq-United States-Iran meeting held on 24 July 2007 (see annex). I have further the honour to request that this be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 12 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) T. Hamid Al-Bayati
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/62/150.



Annex to the letter dated 5 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

We warmly welcome you and are pleased at the response of your two Governments to our invitation to the second round of United States-Iran-Iraq talks held today in Baghdad.

The first round was positive, was held in an atmosphere of openness and transparency, achieved its priority objectives of breaking the alienation and deadlock in relations and highlighted general agreement on supporting Iraq and its national Government, respecting its sovereignty and independence, non-interference in its internal affairs and in combating terrorism which has become a matter of daily concern in the life of Iraqi citizens and an impediment to progress and development towards the security, stability and prosperity of the country.

The agreement reached at the end of the previous meeting laid the groundwork for continuation of the dialogue today and for taking it on to a new stage so as to put an end to the security problems and difficulties, find ways of cooperating to address them, achieve a practical solution that meets the needs of Iraq and support the efforts of the Government to confront terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, to defeat it and safeguard the security and stability of the country which are basic necessities for the country's development, reconstruction and future development towards a democratic, pluralistic, federal and united Iraq.

We are taking part in this meeting as an essential and active party to the talks as we feel that any discussion of the situation of Iraq and any resulting agreements concerning it by States friendly to us must be achieved through clear understandings with the Iraqi Government and in a form that responds to the interests and total independence of our country, ensures non-interference in its internal affairs, does not affect Iraq's freedom of decision and respects its choices in building its present and its future.

The Iraqi Government will not be a party to any endeavour of which it is not part and which does not take into consideration the demands and needs of the Government.

We affirm that these meetings, which we have entered into, which we strove to bring about and for the continuation of which we shall continue to strive, are a matter of the will of Iraq and a response, first and foremost, to Iraq's desire to arrive at joint understandings and agreements between the three States on cooperation and coordination in support of the Government's programmes and orientations and the removal of obstacles that impede its efforts.

We are convinced that it is in the interests of the United States of America and of the Islamic Republic of Iran that Iraq should be stable and secure with no place for terrorism, and accordingly we emphasize that today's talks are exclusively about Iraq. We therefore emphasize the following:

- I. Affirmation of respect for the unity, sovereignty and democratic choice of Iraq, and non-interference in its internal affairs; that is matched by clear and firm

undertakings to enforce that affirmation and to hold violators of this position responsible.

II. That the talks will result in agreement on steps to assist Iraq to achieve stability, to control all its internal affairs, to take charge of its internal security, to protect its borders and to rely on its own capacities; this means that Iraq, within a period to be determined by the progress achieved in building up its military and security capacities, will be without the international forces and will be strengthened by regional interventions, and that it will be a stable and secure country for its own people and for its neighbours.

III. Respect for the will of the Iraqi people and for its options in building the system it deems appropriate means, in the first place, non-interference in any form whatever aimed at influencing any Iraqi (either collectively or individually) in a manner incompatible with the Iraqi national interest or involvement in actions or orientations that serve regional or foreign agendas or support any armed group irrespective of its national or sectarian orientations in order to attain purposes incompatible with respect for peaceful, political and democratic means and legitimate elected institutions.

IV. The presence of multinational forces resulted from the request and need of Iraq to complete the building up and preparation of its security and military forces. The length of their stay, confirmation of their withdrawal and the manner of such withdrawal are subject to the decision of the Iraqi Government and it is for all States that are friendly towards Iraq to respect that option and to assist Iraq in building up its forces so as to be able to terminate the presence of foreign troops in Iraq. At the same time, these forces are present in order to support Iraq in its war against terrorism and they are not directed against Iran or any other State.

V. It is in Iraq's interest to have strong and multifaceted relations with its neighbour Iran based on mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of both countries; Iraq repudiates any threat to the security of Iran and interference in its internal affairs, just as it expects Iran to stop any effort or activity by any Iranian entity that is likely to weaken Iraq or impair its internal security by giving support, with weapons, training or financing, to any armed group or militia, sectarian party or extremist group or providing them with facilities to target the Iraqi military or security forces or the multinational forces which are supporting them in the process of law enforcement and combating terrorism.

VI. In the context of supporting the Iraqi Government and respecting its sovereignty and international commitments, we call upon the Government of the United States of America to respect the presence of Iranian diplomats and officials working, and legally present, in Iraq.

VII. Iraq regards the Mujahedin-e Khalq Organization as a terrorist organization and, in cooperation with the Governments of the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and relevant international organizations, is endeavouring to expel elements of the organization from Iraq. When that is accomplished, Iraq affirms that the organization and its members will not be allowed to carry out any military, political or information-related activity that is detrimental to the interests or security of Iran or threatens the security of Iraqis.

VIII. We affirm the need for Iranian institutions to cooperate with their Iraqi counterparts and for direct coordination with them in curbing the smuggling of oil,

weapons, drugs and other prohibited substances, in addressing the related problems in frontier oil fields and oil wells and in strengthening measures connected with monitoring and securing the borders and entry and exit points by land, sea and air; the Iranian Government is providing the necessary facilities to help Iraq in dealing with these matters either on a bilateral basis or through the support provided by the United States of America and other friendly States.

IX. In the context of building confidence and cooperation, there should, in our view, be mechanisms for the exchange of information and for cooperation in combating terrorism in Iraq, and its extension in neighbouring States, in which our three countries would participate.

X. The Iraqi Government considers it important that these meetings, in which our three countries are taking part, should be continued on many levels in order to follow up matters that have been agreed and to focus on addressing any difficulties that arise during the process of applying what has been agreed, and that the meeting should continue in Baghdad. In addition, there should be a mechanism for rapid contact between representatives of the three countries for the purpose of consultation on any new matter that arises.
